

**Tuesdays with Tammy Nevada Libraries Forum**  
from  
**Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records**  
10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
November 24th, 2020

Attending: Sulin Jones, Norma Fowler, Bruce Douglass, Hope Williams, NSLAPR; Jessica Anderson, Humboldt County; Joan Dalusung, Jennifer Heath, Washoe County; Cyndi O, NV CoOp; Maggie Farrell, UNLV; Kristy Reynolds, Cindy Wood, UNR College of Education LRC; Nancy Schmidt, SCLL.



## **WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW**



### **Strengths:**

- Libraries remain agile and community centered, providing essential services that reach beyond books and information; each library focuses on the needs of their own communities.
- Libraries pull together, help each other, and share with each other; Nevada libraries have created Communities of Practice around knowledge, innovation, and best practices



### **Struggles:**

- Maintaining core services for the public and a safe work environment for staff while operating under reduced hours and in compliance with health and safety protocols re: building capacity and lending of materials.
- Keeping staff working and keeping staff positions, pay, and benefits intact during shutdowns



### **Opportunities:**

- Being clever, creative, and sustainable during these times creates support among communities we serve.
- Demonstrating effectiveness of libraries in times of crisis; providing tangible and essential services to assist communities during the COVID19 pandemic and economic downturn.
- Partnerships with organizations (such as the Department of Education, California Library Association, and local government departments) that wouldn't have happened pre-pandemic



### **Trends**

- Libraries will do things differently going forward and will retain some programs and services that were begun because of the pandemic.

## Announcements:

- **New Tuesday Schedule beginning in December**
  - Meetings will be monthly starting December 2020
  - 1st Tuesday of the month, 10 am
- **Mental Wellness webinars are posted on the NSLAPR website:**  
<https://nsla.nv.gov/COVID19/10MinuteWellness>

## Library News and Links:

- **Nevada Health Response website:** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>
- **Governor Sisolak announces additional restrictions to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in Nevada (press release):** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/11.22-RELEASE.pdf>
- **Nevada Statewide Pause Guidance Matrix:** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/NV-Statewide-Pause-Guidance-Matrix.pdf>
- **Nevada Statewide Pause Summary Graphic:** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/NV-SW-Pause-11-24-Summary-Graphic.pdf>
- **COVID-19 Status Graphic:** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Infographic-COVID-19-v2.0.pdf>
- **Governor Sisolak's Press Conference Remarks:** <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/11.22-GOV-REMARKS-AS-PREPARED-FOR-DELIVERY.pdf>
- **LVCCLD series on diversity:** <https://www.library.unlv.edu/weneedtotalk>

**Sulin Jones, NSLAPR:** Shared a summary and related links for Governor Sisolak's Nevada Statewide Pause, effective Nov. 24, 2020. For libraries, attendance is capped at 25% of capacity and strict social distancing requirements must be followed, and face covering requirements apply. She asked attendees to share how/if the new directives are impacting library operations

**Hope Williams, NSLAPR, Talking Books:** Talking Books is now sending out books in disposable envelopes. Included in the envelope is a self-addressed return container so patrons can return the items safely.

**Joan Dalusung, Washoe County:** The libraries' holds pickup and grab-and-go services are shut down to the public through December 1 and will likely be closed through the month of December. Staff members are continuing to develop online programming.

**Maggie Farrell, UNLV:** No real changes at UNLV - we never left our "step 2" so the only change is that no events are allowed. Fans are not permitted at games. Our case count is low, but we miss our students. Library attendance is very low compared to what it usually is at this point in the semester.

**Kristy Reynolds, UNR Media Center:** The library is now seeing an average of 30 people per day compared to around 200 per day usually. Were providing curbside service but that ended quickly with the new directive.

**Jennifer Heath, Washoe County:** A part-time library employee who also works for the City, she is attending the Tuesday meetings for professional development and to see where the libraries are heading. She took part in a recent diversity workshop along with other Washoe library staff and is involved in a diversity/equity evaluation of the Juvenile collection.

**Sulin Jones, NSLAPR:** added that Teaching Books, a statewide database available to all Nevada libraries, offers a Diverse Books toolkit that includes a collection analysis function.

**Nancy Schmidt, SCLL:** Thank you for getting the Literacy Report out. Marty Elquist of Children's Cabinet was enthused about the process and supportive of continuing the efforts to keep the information up to date.

**Jessica Anderson, Humboldt County:** We are doing okay. Things have slowed down with fewer people coming into the library. Staff are working on the Teen Room project. The furniture has been received and needs to be assembled, a column is being wired, and painting is being done. The staff will be doing a Tik-Tok video for the big reveal of the new space.

**Cindy Wood, UNR, Washoe School District:** Cindy works with Kristy Reynolds and is the school district representative in the collaborative. Currently they are circulating materials through the school mail twice a week—down from once a day. Also scanning picture books and making recordings of them to help teachers.

**Cyndi O, Nevada Library CoOp:** The courier run between Carson, Churchill, Lyon, and the Nevada State Library has been reduced from every week to every two-three weeks. Carson City Library has reduced their hours and is only doing curbside. Churchill Library and Mineral County are only doing curbside. Esmeralda and Beatty are closed down, though Beatty is closed for emergency construction repairs. Members are being supportive of each other and staying as safe as possible.

**Joan Dalusung, NLA/CLA Update:** The California Library Association is having a virtual conference in May 2021 and they have extended an offer to Nevada Libraries to attend at their member rate of \$250.00. Attendees would also have access to all the programming after the conference is over.

**Nancy Schmidt, Nevada Reads:** The Nevada Reads committee will be meeting to select the new titles for the upcoming year around the theme of environment and climate change. There should be an announcement soon. Nevada Humanities received positive feedback at the national level about the radio programming that was pioneered with *Severance* and they plan to continue using that model.

Joan Dalusung added that *Nomadland* has been made into a movie that is receiving good reviews. Hope Williams commented that Talking Books used the title for one of their monthly book discussions, and it worked well for discussion.